GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:857
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
COLLUSION OF MIGS IN MID-AIR
ADHIR RANJAN CHOWDHURY;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two MIG-21 fighter planes collided in mid- air after taking off from Solanibari Air Force Base in Sonitpur district, Assam on October 16, 2000;

(b) if so, the estimated loss incurred therefrom in financial and physical terms;

(c) whether any preliminary investigations into the causes of the collusion have been undertaken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Two MIG-21fighter planes collided in mid-air on 16th October, 2000 at Tezpur local flying area, while on a training sortie. Apart from destruction of the Aircraft, one Flying Officer sustained fatal injuries in this accident. Court of Inquiry has been ordered to find the causes for the accident and to suggest remedial action, which is still in progress.